



December 1, 2006

David Gray, President  
Frederick Board of Commissioners  
12 East Church Street  
Frederick, MD 21701

RE: Monocacy Scenic River Citizens' Advisory Board Annual Report

Dear Mr. Gray:

The Monocacy Scenic River Citizens' Advisory Board was created in 1978 and is comprised of ten members, five appointed by the Carroll County Commissioners and five appointed by the Frederick County Commissioners. The Board provides advice and recommendations to the County Governments on land use, land development proposals, and resource management issues that impact the Monocacy River, serving as an advocate for the River and its varied resources.

**Board Members:**

**FREDERICK COUNTY**

Paul Allen, Chairman

Jack Lynch  
Frank Gladhill  
Sean McCabe  
Elizabeth Prongas

**CARROLL COUNTY**

Tom Devilbiss, Vice Chairman

Thomas Robertson, Jr.  
Peter Whitford  
John Hale  
Kim Stenley

Frederick County Staff Liaison: Tim Goodfellow, (301) 694-2508  
Carroll County Staff Liaison: Scott Graf, (410) 386-2145

**Website:**

<http://www.co.frederick.md.us/planning/BoardsCommissions/MonScenRivAdvisBoard.htm>

**Brief History of Monocacy Protection:**

Resolution #92-11, adopted April 20, 1992, formally established the Monocacy Scenic River Citizens' Advisory Board (River Board), a body tasked with providing 'counsel and advice on the stewardship of the Monocacy River Watershed' to the Commissioners of Frederick County and the State of Maryland.

To fulfill official duty No. 6 as stipulated in Resolution #92-11, the River Board hereby transmits its annual report to the Frederick County Commissioners. The annual report is required to outline the activities, goals, and accomplishments of the River Board.

Since January 2005, the River Board has convened 13 meetings where we discussed a variety of topics and issues plus listened to several speakers. We even held outdoor meetings at three River front sites.

During the past 19 months, the River Board:

- \*Reviewed and commented on two Frederick County subdivisions adjacent to the River

- \*Hosted 3 speakers: Dr. Yen-Der Cheng, Maryland Dept. of the Environment briefed the River Board on wastewater treatments plants and their nutrient loads, County storm water permits (NPDES), and water quality monitoring and impairments (TMDLs)

Charles Barscz, Manager of the National Rivers Program in the National Park Service, spoke about the Federal Wild and Scenic River Program and its eligibility and designation process.

John Wilson, MD Dept. of Natural Resources, discussed the State's Scenic River Program.

\*Commented, via letter to various entities, on the following issues:

Carroll County road closure (Baumgardner Road – several River Board members testified at the Carroll County public hearing)

Land donation in Frederick County (Overlook Park – Monocacy River near Linganore Road)

Fredrick County's non-interest in surplus State land adjacent to River (US Rt. 15 at Resthaven)

Agricultural Preservation District (Arnold property along River near airport)

Maintenance of 26-acre County-owned River-front parcel at Dudrow Business Park

(\*River Board's follow-up letter to the County on this issue dated August 3, 2005 has not been answered)

Part of the River Board's authorization includes the charge of reviewing studies, policies and rules formulated by Federal, State and Local government agencies that concern the Monocacy River watershed...and to comment on such proposals as appropriate.

Another task is to review and make recommendations on Federal, State, County and local programs, regulations, and public and private projects, including land use and development proposals, which the Board believes may have an impact on the Monocacy River watershed.

To this end, the River Board enlisted the assistance of staff from the National Park Service's Chesapeake Watershed Assistance Program to further refine and articulate our goals and purpose and to prioritize our direction. We held brainstorming and visioning exercises in July and September 2006 and focused our discussion and work on the following question: How can the Monocacy Scenic River Citizens' Advisory Board be most effective at influencing the positive management of the River and its watershed and raising awareness for the River's future health?



We crafted a vision statement and focused on several mechanisms and approaches to achieve this vision.

Monocacy Scenic River Board Vision Statement:

*"A healthy, sustainable River results from balancing preservation, conservation and private property interests emphasizing cultural, historical, natural and ecological values, including agricultural lands, while providing recreational opportunities."*

The four areas of focus identified by the River Board include:

- Monitoring and reporting
- Collaboration
- Regulatory overview
- Education, outreach and advocacy

For the coming year, the River Board will continue to take an active role in reviewing and commenting on various projects and plans in the watershed. We hope to publish a Monocacy River Report Card for use as an educational item to convey water quality data and other information to the citizens and decision makers.

This letter was approved by unanimous vote at the October 4, 2006 River Board meeting.

Sincerely,

Paul Allen, Chairman

Tom Devilbiss, Vice-chair